

NEW JERSEY CLEAN AIR COUNCIL

Clean Air Council Members

James Blando, Ph.D., Chairman
Leonard Bielory, M.D., Vice Chairman
Ferdows Ali, Ph.D.
Jorge H. Berkowitz, Ph.D.
Joseph Constance
Michael Egenton
John Elston
Elease Evans
Toby Hanna, P.E.
Richard M. Lynch, Ph.D.
John Maxwell

Clean Air Council Members

Joyce Paul
Joseph Spatola, Ph.D.
Kenneth Thoman
Junfeng (Jim) Zhang, Ph.D.
Irwin Zonis

Clean Air Council Liaison

Sonia Evans, CAC Liaison
Telephone 609-633-2007
Fax 609-984-6369
cac@dep.state.nj.us
CAC Web Site

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/cleanair>

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NJ CLEAN AIR COUNCIL MEETING RECORD

December 13, 2006, 9:30 a.m.
NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust
3131 Princeton Pike
Building 6, 2nd Floor, Suite 201
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Bielory opened the meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: All of the Council members were present with the changes noted below. (**See Attachment 1 – Attendance Sheet**)

EXCUSED: James Blando, Elease Evans, Jim Zhang
ABSENT: Ferdows Ali
SPEAKERS: Bill O'Sullivan, Director, Division of Air Quality; Diane Brake, Regional Planning Partnership; Eileen Murphy, Director, Division of Research, Science & Technology; Michael Aucott, Ph.D., Division of Research, Science & Technology
VISITORS: Kelly Moretta, Schering-Plough Corp., Sharon Haas, NJDEP; Jordan Friedberg, Regional Planning Partnership; Joe Eldridge, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services

Meeting Record

Roll call was taken. Vice-Chairman called for motion to approve the November minutes. Irwin Zonis made the motion to approve November minutes as submitted. Michael Egenton seconded the motion. The November minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Administrative Report

Presented by Bill O'Sullivan, Director, Division of Air Quality:

- The Center for Progressive Reform released a report on enforcement in metropolitan areas that experience numerous “code orange” and higher days. New Jersey ranked seventh of the 10 states on the number of people living in counties failing to meet the ozone standard.
- The Preconstruction Permit (minor facility) backlog stands at a record low of 16 for the month of October. The total elimination of backlogged Preconstruction Permits is the goal of the Bureau of Preconstruction Permits. Focus is now on the Operating Permit modification (major facility) backlog of 63. Staff has been reassigned to address this higher backlog.
- The Air Program has submitted to USEPA its plan and rules to reduce mercury emissions from coal-fired electric generating units. New Jersey is not participating in USEPA’s mercury trading program and any mercury allocations set aside for New Jersey facilities will be retired to ensure that the greater mercury emission reductions in New Jersey will not result in increased emissions of mercury in other states.
- On November 15, 2006, USEPA announced a \$250,000 grant to NESCAUM’s Clean Air Communities Program to implement recommendations by the state’s Environmental Justice Task Force and the Air Toxics Pilot Project to reduce environmental risks to citizens of Waterfront South in Camden. This includes a \$200,000 diesel retrofit program for area vehicles.
- The largest pilot retrofit project in New Jersey to date, involving 300 New Jersey Transit buses, was completed last month. The buses were retrofitted with filters that will reduce particulate emissions by 90% as these buses travel to and from New York City.
- Discussions are underway to develop diesel mitigation projects pursuant to the PSE&G Amended Consent Decree, which was lodged in federal district court on November 30, 2006. A copy of the consent decree will be e-mailed to the CAC members.
- Outdoor wood boilers (OWB) are becoming an increasing public nuisance and an air pollution problem in the northeastern USA. New Jersey is considering adoption of a model rule under development by NESCAUM.

Rules:

- The comment period closed on November 17, 2006, for the rule removing exemptions to the current idling standard for diesel-powered motor vehicles. The NJDEP is preparing responses to the comments, and expects adoption in early 2007.
- New Jersey’s NOx budget rule, except for the NOx allocation method, will be superseded by the federal CAIR rule. In January, NJDEP expects to propose a revised NOx allocation rule for incorporating into the federal CAIR program.
- The New Jersey diesel retrofit rule was proposed in the December 18, 2006, New Jersey Register. The comment period closes on February 16, 2007.
- The Air Program has commenced rule development for the OTC Measures for VOCs and NOx. The RACT SIP will be proposed in early 2007 and will commit to propose rules for the OTC enhanced measures.

Connecting Clean Air Goals to the State Plan: Greenhouse Gas Calculator

Presented by Diane Brake, Regional Planning Partnership: (See Attachment 2–distributed at meeting)

Overview:

- Smart Growth Economy Project

- Greenhouse Emission Reduction Calculators
 - >Mobile Share
 - >Land Use Share
- Statewide and Beyond

Greenhouse Emissions Reduction:

- Local Emissions Reduction Target
- NJ Emissions Target – 3.5% below 1990
- MCPA/Kyoto – 7.0% below 1990
- Action Steps (Best Practices) to Meet Target
- Connect Land Use With Cleaner Air
 - >Shorten Existing Vehicle Trips
 - >Reduce the Number of Vehicle Trips
 - >Conservation
 - >“Green-up” Property
 - >Recycling/Cogeneration

Statewide and Beyond:

- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
 - >Members: NJ, DE, NY, CT, VT, NH, ME
 - >Observers: PA, MD, MA, Eastern Canadian Provinces, New Brunswick
- Expanding Capacity **Not** Emissions

Next Steps:

- Peer Review
- Target Adjustment
- Monitoring/Enforcement

Inter-agency Indoor Air Task Force

Presented by Eileen Murphy, Director, Division of Research, Science & Technology:

In response to a recommendation from the CAC’s 2006 hearing, Eileen Murphy is forming an “Indoor Air Quality Task Force.” A planning meeting will be held in early 2007. A workplan with target dates will be developed. Final results will be presented to CAC. CAC members were invited to serve on the Task Force, as well as contacting anyone who might want to serve on it.

NJ Climate Trends, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions, and Energy Use Trends

Presented by Michael Aucott, Ph.D., NJDEP Division of Science, Research & Technology: (See Attachment 3—Distributed electronically to members after meeting)

- Climate change is a global issue – NJ trends mirror global trends
- Climate is warming and sea levels are rising
- Precipitation patterns are changing
- It is likely that the warming is leading to increased frequency of extreme weather events including droughts, floods, and lightning storms
- Recent data indicates hurricanes are getting stronger
- These trends spell trouble for flood-prone areas, e.g., the NJ coast
- Human-caused emissions of GHGs from energy inefficiency and reliance on fossil fuels is the major cause
- Cutting emissions is essential to prevent dramatic and essentially irreversible change
- Adaptive measures will also be necessary

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Vice-Chairman called for a motion to send Gene Feyl a thank you letter. Irwin Zonis made the motion, seconded by Jorge Berkowitz. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Sonia to draft letter for Chairman's signature. Review December Minutes
- Annual Public Hearing Update—suggested speakers/topic areas were discussed. The list will be shared with members along with draft of the brochure.
- Chairman called for motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Egenton made the motion, seconded by John Elston. The meeting was adjourned.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- News Clips

NEXT MEETING

January 10, 2007, 9:30 a.m., IBEW, Local 94, 219 Franklin St., Hightstown, NJ 08520